United Nations A/CN.9/473

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 May 2000

Original: English

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
Thirty-third session
New York, 12 June-7 July 2000

Training and technical assistance

Note by the Secretariat

Contents

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	Introduction	1-2	2
II.	Importance of texts of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	3-4	2
III.	Technical assistance to the preparation and implementation of legislation	5-8	3
IV.	Seminars and briefing missions	9-12	3
V.	Participation in other activities	13-14	4
VI.	Internship programme	15-16	6
VII.	Future activities	17-18	6
VIII.	Financial resources	19-25	7

V.00-54001 (E)

I. Introduction

1. Pursuant to a decision taken at the twentieth session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL),[1] held in 1987, training and assistance activities count among the high priorities of UNCITRAL. The training and technical assistance programme carried out by the Secretariat under the mandate given by the Commission, in particular in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition, encompasses two main lines of activity: (a) information activities aimed at promoting understanding of international commercial law conventions, model laws and other legal texts; and (b) assistance to Member States with commercial law reform and adoption of UNCITRAL texts.

2. The present note lists the activities of the Secretariat subsequent to the issuance of the previous note submitted to the Commission at its thirty-second session, in 1999 (A/CN.9/461), and indicates possible future training and technical assistance activities in the light of the requests for such services from the Secretariat.

II. Importance of texts of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

3. In an era of globalization, increasing importance is being attributed by Governments, domestic and international business communities and multilateral and bilateral aid agencies to the improvement of the legal framework for international trade and investment. UNCITRAL has an important function to play in that process because it has produced and promotes the use of legal instruments in a number of key areas of commercial law that represent internationally agreed standards and solutions acceptable to different legal systems. Those instruments include:

(a) In the area of sales, the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods[2] and the United Nations Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods;[3]

(b) In the area of dispute resolution, the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards[4] (a United Nations convention adopted prior to the establishment of the Commission, but actively promoted by it), the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules,[5] the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules,[6] the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration[7] and the UNCITRAL Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings;[8]

(c) In the area of procurement, the UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services;[9]

(d) In the area of banking, payments and insolvency, the United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Standby Letters of Credit (General Assembly resolution 50/48, annex), the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers,[10] the United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes (General Assembly resolution 43/165, annex) and the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency;[11]

(e) In the area of transport, the United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 (Hamburg Rules),[12] and the United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade;[13]

(f) In the area of electronic commerce and data interchange, the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce.[14]

4. Harmonization and unification of the law of international trade maximizes the ability of business parties from different States to successfully plan and implement commercial transactions and, thus, fosters investors' confidence. In its resolution 54/103 of 9 December 1999, the General Assembly reaffirmed its conviction that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity and common interest and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to the well-being of all peoples. The growing interest in commercial law reform represents a crucial opportunity for UNCITRAL to further those objectives significantly, as envisaged by the Assembly in its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966.

III. Technical assistance to the preparation and implementation of legislation

5. Technical assistance is provided to States preparing legislation based on UNCITRAL texts. Such assistance is provided in various forms, including review of preparatory drafts of legislation from the viewpoint of UNCITRAL texts, technical consultancy services and assistance in the preparation of legislation based on UNCITRAL texts, preparation of regulations implementing such legislation and comments on reports of law reform commissions, as well as briefings for legislators, judges, arbitrators, procurement officials and other users of UNCITRAL texts embodied in national legislation. Another form of technical assistance provided by the Secretariat consists of advising on the establishment of institutional arrangements for international commercial arbitration, including training seminars for arbitrators, judges and practitioners in the area.

6. In its resolution 54/103, the General Assembly reaffirmed the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with training and technical assistance in the field of international trade law, such as assistance in the preparation of national legislation based on legal texts of the Commission, while expressing its concern that activities undertaken by other bodies of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law without coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law, as stated in its resolution 37/106 of 16 December 1982; and appealed to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission.

7. The secretariat of the Commission has taken steps to increase cooperation and coordination with development assistance agencies, with a view to ensuring that the legal texts prepared by the Commission and recommended by the General Assembly for consideration are in fact so considered and used. From the standpoint of recipient States, UNCITRAL technical assistance is beneficial because of the Secretariat's accumulated experience in the preparation of UNCITRAL texts.

8. States that are in the process of revising their trade legislation may wish to request the UNCITRAL secretariat to provide technical assistance and advice.

IV. Seminars and briefing missions

9. The information activities of UNCITRAL are typically carried out through seminars and briefing missions for government officials from interested ministries (such as trade, foreign affairs, justice and transport), judges, arbitrators, practising lawyers, the commercial and trading community, scholars and other interested individuals. Seminars and briefing missions are designed to explain the salient features and utility of international trade law instruments of UNCITRAL. Information is also provided on certain important legal texts of other organizations, for example, Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits and Incoterms of the International Chamber of Commerce and the Convention on International Factoring of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (Unidroit).

10. In resolution 54/103, the General Assembly expressed the desirability for increased efforts by the Commission, in sponsoring seminars and symposia, to provide training and technical assistance.

11. Lectures at UNCITRAL seminars are generally conducted by one or two members of the UNCITRAL secretariat, experts from the host countries and, occasionally, external consultants. After the seminars, the secretariat remains in contact with seminar participants in order to provide the host countries with the maximum possible support during the process leading up to the adoption and use of UNCITRAL texts.

12. Since the previous session, the secretariat of the Commission has organized seminars in a number of States, which have typically included briefing missions. The following seminars were financed with resources from the UNCITRAL trust fund for symposia:

(a) Johannesburg, South Africa (6 and 7 May 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Stellenbosch (approx. 50 participants);

(b) Stellenbosch, South Africa (9 and 10 May 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Stellenbosch (approx. 50 participants);

(c) Pretoria (11 and 12 May 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Stellenbosch (approx. 30 participants);

(d) Yaoundé (10-12 May 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Government of Cameroon and the African Development Bank (AFDB) (approx. 200 participants);

(e) Abidjan (13 and 14 May 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Government of Cameroon and AFDB (approx. 30 participants);

(f) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (12 and 13 August 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Ministry of External Relations (approx. 100 participants);

(g) Lima (19 and 20 August 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Iberoamerican Institute for International Economic Law (approx. 60 participants);

(h) Cuzco, Peru (23-25 August 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Iberoamerican Institute for International Economic Law (approx. 50 participants);

(i) Brasilia (30 and 31 August 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Ministry of External Relations (approx. 140 participants);

(j) São Paulo, Brazil (2 and 3 September 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Ministry of External Relations (approx. 150 participants);

(k) Moscow (2-4 November 1999), seminar held in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation (approx. 60 participants);

(l) Antananarivo (6-8 March 2000), seminar held in cooperation with the Ministry of Consumers and Trade (approx. 40 participants).

V. Participation in other activities

13. Members of the UNCITRAL secretariat have participated as speakers in various seminars, conferences and courses where UNCITRAL texts were presented for examination and possible adoption or use. The participation of members of the secretariat in the seminars, conferences and courses listed below was financed by the institution organizing the events or by another organization:

(a) Dickinson Law School Summer Programme (Florence, Italy, 18 June 1999);

(b) Tenth Annual Workshop and Symposium on Arbitration of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration (Dallas, Texas, United States of America, 17 June 1999);

(c) Global Financial Services Conference, sponsored by the Commercial Finance Association and the Factors and Discounters Association (London, 9-11 June 1999);

(d) Tenth International Summer Academy, sponsored by Logistik und Transport-Consult (Sopron, Hungary, 23 and 24 June 1999);

(e) Round Table on Questions of Private International Law Raised by Electronic Commerce and the Internet, sponsored by the Hague Conference on Private International Law and the University of Geneva (Geneva, Switzerland, 2-4 September 1999);

(f) Symposium on Insolvency Reform: Building Effective Systems, sponsored by the World Bank (Washington, D.C., 14 and 15 September 1999);

(g) Colloquium on Technology and Law, sponsored by the University of Heidelberg (Heidelberg, Germany, 23 and 24 September 1999);

(h) Arbitration Seminar, sponsored by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (Warsaw, 17 September 1999);

(i) Conference on Electronic Commerce and Intellectual Property, sponsored by WIPO (Geneva, Switzerland, 14-16 September 1999);

(j) Symposium on Insolvency Law Reforms, sponsored by the Asian Development Bank (Manila, 25-27 October 1999);

(k) Conference on Disputes in International Financial Transactions, sponsored by the Foundation of the National and International Arbitration Court of Venice (Venice, Italy, 22 and 23 October 1999);

(l) Regional Seminar on Electronic Commerce for African Countries, sponsored by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Ministry of Trade of Kenya (Nairobi, 7 and 8 October 1999);

(m) International Arbitration Seminar of the Arbitration Tribunal of the International Chamber of Commerce, sponsored by the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation (Kiev, 25-27 October 1999);

(n) Annual Congress of Union Internationale des Avocats (Delhi, 3-6 November 1999);

(o) World E-Com Conference, sponsored by the West Australian Department of Commerce and Trade (Perth, Australia, 8-10 November 1999);

(p) Infrastructure Conference of the Asia-Pacific Forum of the International Bar Association (Manila, 10- 13 November 1999);

(q) Conference on Public Private Partnership—The Legal Framework for Privatization of Infrastructure Projects in Central and Eastern Europe, sponsored by the International Association of Young Lawyers (Warsaw, 18-20 November 1999);

(r) Conference on Insolvency Regimes in Asia: A Comparative Perspective, sponsored by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Australian Treasury (Sydney, Australia, 29 and 30 November 1999);

(s) Conference on Internet and Electronic Commerce, sponsored by the Ministry of Telecommunication and the Tunisian Internet Agency (Tunis, 9 and 10 November 1999);

(t) Chartered Institute of Arbitrators/Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration: Entry, Special Fellowship and Award Writing Courses (Cairo, 28 November-3 December 1999);

(u) Pan-African Arbitration Congress of the London Court of International Arbitration (Cairo, 4 December 1999);

(v) International Bar Association Conference on Uniform Commercial Laws, Infrastructure and Project Finance in Africa (Yaoundé, 9-11 December 1999);

(w) Fifth Legal Colloquium, sponsored by the European Central Bank (Frankfurt, Germany, 13 December 1999);

(x) Lectures on electronic commerce at the University of Bologna (Bologna, Italy, 21 and 22 December 1999);

(y) Arbitrators' Training Course, sponsored by the Arbitration Centre at Ein Shams University (Cairo, 24-28 January 2000);

(z) 2000 Global Internet Summit, sponsored by the George Mason University (Washington, D.C., 12-14 March 2000);

(aa) Lecture on the United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Standby Letters of Credit, held at Cabinet Coudert Frères (Paris, 2 March 2000);

(bb) Symposium on International Commercial Arbitration in the Asia-Oceania Region, sponsored by the Institute for Socio-Economic Dispute Studies, Meijo University Graduate School of Law (Nagoya, Japan, 22 and 23 February 2000);

(cc) Alternative Dispute Resolution Workshop, sponsored by the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association (Nagoya, Japan, 24 February 2000);

(dd) Offshore E-Commerce Meeting, sponsored by IBC USA Conferences Inc. (Miami, Florida, United States, 22 February 2000);

(ee) International Conference on Electronic Commerce, Multilateral Rules and Impacts on Development, sponsored by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry in Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur, 13-15 March 2000);

(ff) Lectures on electronic commerce at the University of Lecce (Lecce, Italy, 31 March 2000);

(gg) Conference on Arbitration and Conciliation as Methods of Settlement of Disputes and Alternatives to State Justice, sponsored by the University of Valencia, the Valencia Bar Association and the Chamber of Commerce (Valencia, Spain, 6 and 7 April 2000);

(hh) Annual Meeting of the Swiss Association of Communication Law (Zurich, Switzerland, 7 April 2000);

(ii) International Trade Law Post-Graduate Course, sponsored by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the University Institute of European Studies (Turin, Italy, 26 April 2000);

(jj) EE Business Information Center Electronic Commerce Conference (Dubai, 26 April 2000).

14. The participation of members of the secretariat in the seminars, conferences and courses listed below was

financed with resources from the United Nations regular travel budget:

(a) International Federation of Insolvency Professionals (INSOL International) 1999 Regional Conference (Hamilton, 28-30 April 1999);

(b) Spring meeting of the Section on International Law and Practice of the American Bar Association (Hamilton, 1-3 May 1999);

(c) Commonwealth Law Ministers Meeting (Port-of-Spain, 5-7 May 1999);

(d) Twelfth Bled Electronic Commerce Conference, sponsored by the University of Maribor (Bled, Slovenia, 7-9 June 1999);

(e) Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Electronic Commerce of the Free Trade Area of the Americas of the Organization of American States (Miami, Florida, United States, 14-16 June 1999);

(f) International Bar Association Seminar on Insolvency and Fraud—Insolvency and Suggestions for Legislative Improvement (Copenhagen, 13-15 June 1999);

(g) UNCTAD Expert Group Meeting on Electronic Commerce (Geneva, Switzerland, 14-16 July 1999);

(h) Annual Conference of the International Bar Association (Barcelona, Spain, 26 September-2 October 1999);

(i) UNCITRAL/INSOL International Judicial Colloquium and the European Insolvency Practitioners Association/INSOL International Joint Congress (Munich, Germany, 13-17 October 1999);

(j) Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Millennium Conference (London, 18 and 19 November 1999);

(k) Forum on Electronic Commerce, sponsored by OECD (Paris, 12 and 13 October 1999);

(l) INSOL International Conference on Insolvency Law (Delhi, 26 February 2000);

(m) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Law Conference sponsored by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Delhi, 1 March 2000);

(n) International Council for Commercial Arbitration Conference 2000 (Delhi, 2-4 March 2000);

(o) Arbitration Seminar, sponsored by the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Kathmandu, 7 and 8 March 2000);

(p) Central Europe and Baltic States Regional Insolvency Workshop, sponsored by EBRD and the World Bank (Bratislava, 14 and 15 March 2000).

VI. Internship programme

15. The internship programme is designed to give young lawyers the opportunity to become familiar with the work of UNCITRAL and to increase their knowledge of specific areas in the field of international trade law. During the past year, the Secretariat has hosted nine interns from Australia, Germany, Poland, Spain and the United States. Interns are assigned tasks such as basic or advanced research, collection and systematization of information and materials or assistance in preparing background papers. The experience of UNCITRAL with the internship programme has been positive. As no funds are available to the Secretariat to assist interns to cover their travel or other expenses, interns are often sponsored by an organization, university or government agency or they meet their expenses from their own means. In this connection, the Commission may wish to invite Member States, universities and other organizations, in addition to those which already do so, to consider sponsoring the participation of young lawyers in the United Nations internship programme with UNCITRAL.

16. In addition, the Secretariat occasionally accommodates requests by scholars and legal practitioners who wish to conduct research in the Branch and in the UNCITRAL law library for a limited period of time.

VII. Future activities

17. For the remainder of 2000, seminars and legal assistance briefing missions are being planned in central and eastern Asia, the Caribbean and the Middle East. Since the cost of training and technical assistance activities is not covered by the regular budget, the ability of the Secretariat to implement those plans is contingent upon the receipt of sufficient funds in the form of contributions to the UNCITRAL trust fund for symposia.

18. As it has done in recent years, the Secretariat has agreed to co-sponsor the next three-month international trade law post-graduate course to be organized by the University Institute of European Studies and the International Training Centre of ILO in Turin. Typically, approximately half the participants are from Italy, with

many of the remainder coming from developing countries. The contribution from the UNCITRAL secretariat to the next course will focus on issues of harmonization of laws on international trade law from the perspective of UNCITRAL, including past and current work.

VIII. Financial resources

19. The Secretariat continues its efforts to devise a more extensive training and technical assistance programme to meet the considerably greater demand from States for training and assistance, in keeping with the call of the Commission at its twentieth session for an increased emphasis both on training and assistance and on the promotion of the legal texts prepared by the Commission. However, as no funds for UNCITRAL seminars are provided for in the regular budget, expenses for UNCITRAL training and technical assistance activities (except for those which are supported by funding agencies such as the World Bank) have to be met from voluntary contributions to the UNCITRAL trust fund for symposia.

20. Given the importance of extrabudgetary funding for the implementation of the training and technical assistance component of the UNCITRAL work programme, the Commission may again wish to appeal to all States, international organizations and other interested entities to consider making contributions to the UNCITRAL trust fund for symposia, in particular in the form of multi-year contributions, so as to facilitate planning and to enable the Secretariat to meet the increasing demands from developing countries and States with economies in transition for training and assistance. Information on how to make contributions may be obtained from the Secretariat.

21. In the period under review, contributions were received from Canada, Cyprus, Greece, Mexico and the United Kingdom. The Commission may wish to express its appreciation to those States and organizations which have contributed to the Commission's programme of training and assistance by providing funds or staff or by hosting seminars.

22. In that connection, the Commission may wish to recall that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/32 of 9 December 1993, the Secretary-General was requested to establish a trust fund to grant travel assistance to developing countries that are members of UNCITRAL. The trust fund so established is open to voluntary financial contributions from States, intergovernmental organizations, regional economic integration organizations, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as to natural and juridical persons.

23. At its thirty-first session, the Commission noted with appreciation that the General Assembly, in its resolution 52/157 of 15 December 1997, had appealed to Governments, the relevant United Nations organs, organizations, institutions and individuals, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund for granting travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General.

24. Since the establishment of the trust fund, contributions have been received from Cambodia, Kenya and Singapore.

25. It is recalled that in its resolution 51/161 of 16 December 1996, the General Assembly decided to include the trust funds for symposia and travel assistance in the list of funds and programmes that are dealt with at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/42/17), para. 335.

[2] *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, Vienna, 10 March-11 April 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.V.5), part I).

[3] *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on Prescription (Limitation) in the International Sale of Goods, New York, 20 May-14 June 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.74.V.8), part I).

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/31/17), para. 57.

[6] Ibid., *Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/35/17), para. 106.

[7] Ibid., *Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/40/17), annex I.

[8] Ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/51/17), chap. II.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/49/17 and Corr.1), annex I.

[10] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/47/17), annex I.

[11] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/52/17), annex I.

[12] *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, Hamburg, 6-31 March 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.VIII.1), document A/CONF.89/13, annex I.

[13] A/CONF.152/13, annex.

[14] Ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/51/17), annex I.

United Nations A/CN.9/474

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 June 2000

Original: English

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
Thirty-third session
New York, 12 June-7 July 2000

Status of conventions and model laws

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its thirteenth session (1980), the Commission decided that it would consider, at each of its sessions, the status of conventions that were the outcome of work carried out by it (A/35/17, para. 163).

2. The present note sets forth the status of the conventions and model laws emanating from the work of the Commission. It also shows the status of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958), which, although adopted prior to the establishment of the Commission, is closely related to the work of the Commission in the area of international commercial arbitration.

3. This note indicates the changes since 19 May 1999, when the last report in this series (A/CN.9/462) was issued. States that have become Parties to a convention or enacted legislation based on a model law since the preparation of the last report are shown in bold letters in the respective list in this note.

4. The information contained in this note relating to the UNCITRAL conventions and model laws is current up to 30 May 2000. For regularly updated treaty information after the issuance of this document, please refer to the UNCITRAL homepage on the Internet (http://www.uncitral.org) or, alternatively, contact the Secretariat unit which discharges the depositary functions of the Secretary-General in respect of multilateral treaties: Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Headquarters (http://www.un.org./Depts/Treaty/) (tel.: 212-963-5472, fax: 212-963-3693).

5. The following texts are covered in this note (the term "action" hereinafter is used generically to denote an instrument of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession, which has been deposited in respect of a treaty, or a participation in a treaty as a result of an action to a related treaty):

00-48882 (E) 200600

- *Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, concluded at New York on 14 June 1974, as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980* (17 States Parties);
- [Unamended] Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods (New York, 1974) (24 States Parties);
- *United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 ("Hamburg Rules") (26 States Parties)*;
- *United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980)* (56 States Parties) (56 States Parties);
- *United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes (New York, 1988)* (the Convention has two actions; it requires ten actions for entry into force);
- *United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade (Vienna, 1991)* (the Convention has two actions; it requires five actions for entry into force);
- *United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit (New York, 1995)* (5 States Parties);
- *Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958)* (121 States Parties);
- *UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, 1985* (new legislation adopted on the basis of the model law in the Macau Special Administrative Region of China);
- *UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers (1992)*;
- *UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services (1994)*;
- *UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996)* (new legislation adopted on the basis of the model law by Austria, Bermuda, France, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China and Mexico);
- *UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (1997)* (new legislation adopted on the basis of the model law in Eritrea and Mexico).

I. Participation in conventions

2. Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, concluded at New York on 14 June 1974, as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980

State 1/	*Accession (a), succession (d) or participation under Article VIII or X (*) of the Protocol of 11 April 1980 (**)*	*Entry into force*
Argentina	19 July 1983 a	1 August 1988
Belarus	23 January 1997	1 August 1997
Cuba	2 November 1994 a	1 June 1995
Czech Republic 2/	30 September 1993 d	1 January 1993
Egypt	6 December 1982 a	1 August 1988
Guinea	23 January 1991 a	1 August 1991
Hungary	16 June 1983 a	1 August 1988
Mexico	21 January 1988 a	1 August 1988
Moldova	28 August 1997	1 March 1998
Poland	19 May 1995	1 December 1995
Romania	23 April 1992	1 November 1992
Slovakia 2/	28 May 1993 d	1 January 1993
Slovenia	2 August 1995	1 March 1996
Uganda	12 February 1992	1 September 1992
United States of America 3/	5 May 1994	1 December 1994
Uruguay	1 April 1997	1 November 1997
Zambia	6 June 1986 a	1 August 1988

Parties: 17

*/ In accordance with its article VIII (1), the Protocol is open for accession by all States.

In accordance with article VIII (2) of the Protocol, accession to the Protocol by any State which is not a Contracting Party to the unamended Convention, shall have the effect

of accession to the amended Convention, subject to the provisions of article XI of the Protocol.

In accordance with article X of the Protocol, ratification of or accession to the unamended Convention after the entry into force of the Protocol shall also constitute a ratification of or accession to the amended Convention if the State notifies the depositary accordingly.

**/ For information on which States listed above are Parties to the 1980 amending Protocol contact the Treaty Section, which performs the functions of the depositary in respect of the Protocol (see paragraph 4 above).

1/ The German Democratic Republic was a participant by virtue of its accession on 31 August 1989 to the Protocol of 11 April 1980.

2/ Czechoslovakia was a participant to the Convention and the Protocol by virtue of its accession to the Protocol on 5 March 1990.

N.B. The text of the Convention, as amended, has been established by the Secretary-General, as provided for by article XIV of the Protocol.

Declarations and reservations

2/ 3/ Upon accession, Czechoslovakia and the United States of America declared that, pursuant to article XII, they did not consider themselves bound by article I.

2. [Unamended] Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods (New York, 1974) +/

State a/	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d) or Participation under article XI of the Protocol of 11 April 1980 (**) (p)*	*Entry into force*
Argentina		9 October 1981 a	1 August 1988
Belarus	14 June 1974	23 January 1997	1 August 1997
Bosnia and Herzegovina		12 January 1994 d	6 March 1992
Brazil	14 June 1974		
Bulgaria	24 February 1975		
Burundi		4 September 1998 a	1 April 1999
Costa Rica	30 August 1974		
Cuba		2 November 1994 p	1 June 1995
Czech Republic b/		30 September 1993 d	1 January 1993

State a/	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d) or Participation under article XI of the Protocol of 11 April 1980 (**) (p)*	*Entry into force*
Dominican Republic		23 December 1977 a	1 August 1988
Egypt		6 December 1982 p	1 August 1988
Ghana	5 December 1974	7 October 1975	1 August 1988
Guinea		23 January 1991 a	1 August 1991
Hungary	14 June 1974	16 June 1983	1 August 1988
Mexico		21 January 1988 a	1 August 1988
Moldova		28 August 1997	1 March 1998
Mongolia	14 June 1974		
Nicaragua	13 May 1975		
Norway 1/	11 December 1975	20 March 1980	1 August 1988
Poland	14 June 1974	19 May 1995	1 December 1995
Romania		23 April 1992 a	1 November 1992
Russian Federation c/	14 June 1974		
Slovakia b/		28 May 1993 d	1 January 1993
Slovenia		2 August 1995 p	1 March 1996
Uganda		12 February 1992 a	1 September 1992
Ukraine	14 June 1974	13 September 1993	1 April 1994
United States of America		5 May 1994 a	1 December 1994
Uruguay		1 April 1997	1 November 1997
Yugoslavia		27 November 1978 a	1 August 1988
Zambia		6 June 1986 p	1 August 1988

Parties: 24

±/ The Convention was concluded in equally authentic Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts. On 11 August 1992, the Secretary-General, in accordance with a request of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, circulated a proposal for the adoption of an authentic Arabic text of the Convention. No objections having

been raised, the Arabic text was deemed adopted on 9 November 1992 with the same status as that of the other authentic texts referred to in the Convention.

**/ In accordance with article XI of the Protocol, the Contracting Parties to the amended Convention are considered to be also Contracting Parties to the unamended Convention in relation to any Contracting Party to the unamended Convention not yet a Contracting Party to the 1980 Protocol, unless the depositary is notified to the contrary.

a/ The Convention had been signed by the former German Democratic Republic on 14 June 1974, ratified by it on 31 August 1989 and entered into force on 1 March 1990.

b/ The Convention was signed by the former Czechoslovakia on 29 August 1975 and an instrument of ratification was deposited on 26 May 1977, with the Convention entering into force for the former Czechoslovakia on 1 August 1988. On 28 May 1993 Slovakia, and on 30 September 1993 the Czech Republic, deposited instruments of succession with effect from 1 January 1993, the date of succession of States.

c/ The Russian Federation continues, as from 24 December 1991, the membership of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the United Nations and maintains, as from that date, full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General.

Declarations and reservations

1/ Upon signature, Norway declared, and confirmed upon ratification, that in accordance with article 34 the Convention would not govern contracts of sale where the seller and the buyer both had their relevant places of business within the territories of the Nordic States (i.e. Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden).

3. United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 (Hamburg)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Austria	30 April 1979	29 July 1993	1 August 1994
Barbados		2 February 1981 a	1 November 1992
Botswana		16 February 1988 a	1 November 1992
Brazil	31 March 1978		
Burkina Faso		14 August 1989 a	1 November 1992
Burundi		4 September 1998 a	1 October 1999
Cameroon		21 October 1993 a	1 November 1994
Chile	31 March 1978	9 July 1982	1 November 1992
Czech Republic a/	2 June 1993 d	23 June 1995	1 July 1996

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Democratic Republic of the Congo	19 April 1979		
Denmark	18 April 1979		
Ecuador	31 March 1978		
Egypt	31 March 1978	23 April 1979	1 November 1992
Finland	18 April 1979		
France	18 April 1979		
Gambia		7 February 1996 a	1 March 1997
Georgia		21 March 1996 a	1 April 1997
Germany	31 March 1978		
Ghana	31 March 1978		
Guinea		23 January 1991 a	1 November 1992
Holy See	31 March 1978		
Hungary	23 April 1979	5 July 1984	1 November 1992
Kenya		31 July 1989 a	1 November 1992
Lebanon		4 April 1983 a	1 November 1992
Lesotho		26 October 1989 a	1 November 1992
Madagascar	31 March 1978		
Malawi		18 March 1991 a	1 November 1992
Mexico	31 March 1978		
Morocco		12 June 1981 a	1 November 1992
Nigeria		7 November 1988 a	1 November 1992
Norway	18 April 1979		
Pakistan	8 March 1979		
Panama	31 March 1978		
Philippines	14 June 1978		
Portugal	31 March 1978		
Romania		7 January 1982 a	1 November 1992

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Senegal	31 March 1978	17 March 1986	1 November 1992
Sierra Leone	15 August 1978	7 October 1988	1 November 1992
Singapore	31 March 1978		
Slovakia a/	28 May 1993 d		
Sweden	18 April 1979		
Tunisia		15 September 1980 a	1 November 1992
Uganda		6 July 1979 a	1 November 1992
United Republic of Tanzania		24 July 1979 a	1 November 1992
United States of America	30 April 1979		
Venezuela	31 March 1978		
Zambia		7 October 1991 a	1 November 1992

Parties: 26

a/ The Convention was signed by the former Czechoslovakia on 6 March 1979. 1/ On 28 May 1993, Slovakia and on 2 June 1993, the Czech Republic deposited their instruments of succession to the signature and the Czech Republic deposited its instrument of ratification on 23 June 1995. The Czech Republic, upon ratification, withdrew the declaration, referred to in footnote 1/, that had been made by the former Czechoslovakia.

Declarations and reservations

1/ Upon signing the Convention, the former Czechoslovakia declared in accordance with article 26 the formula for converting the amounts of liability referred to in paragraph 2 of that article into the Czechoslovak currency and the amount of the limits of liability to be applied in the territory of Czechoslovakia as expressed in the Czechoslovak currency.

4. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Approval (AA), Acceptance (A), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Argentina 1/		19 July 1983 a	1 January 1988
Australia		17 March 1988 a	1 April 1989
Austria	11 April 1980	29 December 1987	1 January 1989
Belarus 1/		9 October 1989 a	1 November 1990
Belgium		31 October 1996 a	1 November 1997
Bosnia and Herzegovina		12 January 1994 d	6 March 1992
Bulgaria		9 July 1990 a	1 August 1991
Burundi		4 September 1998 a	1 October 1999
Canada 2/		23 April 1991 a	1 May 1992
Chile 1/	11 April 1980	7 February 1999	1 March 1991
China 3/	30 September 1981	11 December 1986 AA	1 January 1988
Croatia 8/		8 June 1998 d	8 October 1991
Cuba		2 November 1994 a	1 December 1995
Czech Republic a/ 7/		30 September 1993 d	1 January 1993
Denmark 4/	26 May 1981	14 February 1989	1 March 1990
Ecuador		27 January 1992 a	1 February 1993
Egypt		6 December 1982 a	1 January 1988
Estonia 1/		20 September 1993 a	1 October 1994
Finland 4/	26 May 1981	15 December 1987	1 January 1989
France	27 August 1981	6 August 1982 AA	1 January 1988
Georgia		16 August 1994 a	1 September 1995
Germany b/ 5/	26 May 1981	21 December 1989	1 January 1991
Ghana	11 April 1980		
Greece		12 January 1998 a	1 February 1999
Guinea		23 January 1991 a	1 February 1992

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession (a), Approval (AA), Acceptance (A), Succession (d)	Entry into force
Hungary 1/ 6/	22 April 1980	16 June 1983	1 January 1988
Iraq		5 March 1990 a	1 April 1991
Italy	30 September 1981	11 December 1986	1 January 1988
Kyrgyzstan		11 May 1999 a	1 June 2000
Latvia 1/		31 July 1997 a	1 August 1998
Lesotho	18 June 1981	18 June 1981	1 January 1988
Lithuania 1/		18 January 1995 a	1 February 1996
Luxembourg		30 January 1997 a	1 February 1998
Mauritania		20 August 1999 a	1 September 2000
Mexico		29 December 1987 a	1 January 1989
Moldova		13 October 1994 a	1 November 1995
Mongolia		31 December 1997 a	1 January 1999
Netherlands	29 May 1981	13 December 1990 A	1 January 1992
New Zealand		22 September 1994 a	1 October 1995
Norway 4/	26 May 1981	20 July 1988	1 August 1989
Peru		25 March 1999 a	1 April 2000
Poland	28 September 1981	19 May 1995	1 June 1996
Romania		22 May 1991 a	1 June 1992
Russian Federation 5/ 1/		16 August 1990 a	1 September 1991
Singapore 7/	11 April 1980	16 February 1995	1 March 1996
Slovakia 8/ 7/		28 May 1993 d	1 January 1993
Slovenia		7 January 1994 d	25 June 1991
Spain		24 July 1990 a	1 August 1991
Sweden 4/	26 May 1981	15 December 1987	1 January 1989
Switzerland		21 February 1990 a	1 March 1991
Syrian Arab Republic		19 October 1982 a	1 January 1988
Uganda		12 February 1992 a	1 March 1993

State	Signature	Ratification, Accession (a), Approval (AA), Acceptance (A), Succession (d)	Entry into force
Ukraine 1/		3 January 1990 a	1 February 1991
United States of America 7/	31 August 1981	11 December 1986	1 January 1988
Uruguay		25 January 1999 a	1 February 2000
Uzbekistan		27 November 1996 a	1 December 1997
Venezuela	28 September 1981		
Yugoslavia	11 April 1980	27 March 1985	1 January 1988
Zambia		6 June 1986 a	1 January 1988

Parties: 56

a/ The Convention was signed by the former Czechoslovakia on 1 September 1981 and an instrument of ratification was deposited on 5 March 1990, with the Convention entering into force for the former Czechoslovakia on 1 April 1991. 7/ On 28 May 1993 Slovakia, and on 30 September 1993 the Czech Republic, deposited instruments of succession, with effect from 1 January 1993, the date of succession of States.

b/ The Convention was signed by the former German Democratic Republic on 13 August 1981, ratified on 23 February 1989 and entered into force on 1 March 1990.

c/ The Russian Federation continues, as from 24 December 1991, the membership of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the United Nations and maintains, as from that date, full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General.

Declarations and reservations

1/ Upon ratifying, or acceding to, the Convention, Argentina, Belarus, Chile, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine and USSR declared, in accordance with articles 12 and 96 of the Convention, that any provision of article 11, article 29 or Part II of the Convention that allows a contract of sale or its modification or termination by agreement or any offer, acceptance or other indication of intention to be made in any form other than in writing, would not apply where any party had his place of business in their respective States.

2/ Upon accession, Canada declared that, in accordance with article 93 of the Convention, the Convention will extend to Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories. (Upon accession, Canada declared that, in accordance with article 95 of the Convention, with respect to British Columbia, it will not be bound by article 1(1)(b) of the Convention. In a notification received on 31 July 1992, Canada withdrew that declaration.) In a declaration received on 9 April 1992, Canada extended the application of the Convention to Quebec and Saskatchewan. In a notification received on 29 June 1992, Canada extended the application of the Convention to Yukon.

3/ Upon approving the Convention, the People's Republic of China declared that it did not consider itself bound by subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of article 1 and article 11 as well as the provisions in the Convention relating to the content of article 11.

4/ Upon ratifying the Convention, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden declared in accordance with article 92(1) that they would not be bound by Part II of the Convention (Formation of the Contract). Upon ratifying the Convention, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden declared, pursuant to article 94(1) and 94(2), that the Convention would not apply to contracts of sale where the parties have their places of business in Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Iceland or Norway.

5/ Upon ratifying the Convention, Germany declared that it would not apply article 1(1)(b) in respect of any State that had made a declaration that that State would not apply article 1(1)(b).

6/ Upon ratifying the Convention, Hungary declared that it considered the General Conditions of Delivery of Goods between Organizations of the Member Countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance to be subject to the provisions of article 90 of the Convention.

7/ Upon ratifying the Convention, Czechoslovakia, Singapore and the United States of America declared that they would not be bound by paragraph (1)(b) of article 1.

8/ Upon succeeding to the Convention, the Republic of Croatia has decided, on the basis of the Constitutional Decision on Sovereignty and Independence of the Republic of Croatia of 25 June 1991, and the Decision of the Croatian Parliament of 8 October 1991, and by virtue of succession of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in respect of the territory of the Republic of Croatia, to be considered a party to the Convention with effect as from 8 October 1991, the date on which the Republic of Croatia severed all constitutional and legal connections with the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and took over its international obligations.

5. United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes (New York, 1988)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a)*	*Entry into force*
Canada	7 December 1989		
Guinea		23 January 1991 a	
Mexico		11 September 1992 a	
Russian Federation a/	30 June 1990		
United States of America	29 June 1990		

Signatures only: 3; ratifications and accessions: 2
(10 ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO FORCE)

a/ The Russian Federation continues, as from 24 December 1991, the membership of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the United Nations and maintains, as from that date, full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General.

6. United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade (Vienna, 1991)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a)*	*Entry into force*
Egypt		6 April 1999 a	
France	15 October 1991		
Georgia		21 March 1996 a	
Mexico	19 April 1991		
Philippines	19 April 1991		
Spain	19 April 1991		
United States of America	30 April 1992		

Signatures only: 5; ratifications and accessions: 2
(5 ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO FORCE)

7. United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit (New York, 1995)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a)*	*Entry into force*
Belarus	3 December 1996		
Ecuador		18 June 1997 a	1 January 2000
El Salvador	5 September 1997	31 July 1998	1 January 2000
Kuwait		28 October 1998 a	1 January 2000
Panama	9 July 1997	21 May 1998	1 January 2000
Tunisia		8 December 1998 a	1 January 2000
United States of America	11 December 1997		

8. Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958)

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Algeria 1/ 2/		7 February 1989 a	8 May 1989
Antigua and Barbuda 1/ 2/		2 February 1989 a	3 May 1989
Argentina 1/ 2/ 7/	26 August 1958	14 March 1989	12 June 1989
Armenia 1/ 2/		29 December 1997 a	29 March 1998
Australia		26 March 1975 a	24 June 1975
Austria		2 May 1961 a	31 July 1961
Azerbaijan		29 February 2000 (a)	29 May 2000
Bahrain 1/ 2/		6 April 1988 a	5 July 1988
Bangladesh		6 May 1992 a	4 August 1992
Barbados 2/		16 March 1993 a	14 June 1993
Belarus 1/ 3/	29 December 1958	15 November 1960	13 February 1961
Belgium 1/	10 June 1958	18 August 1975	16 November 1975
Benin		16 May 1974 a	14 August 1974
Bolivia		28 April 1995 a	27 July 1995
Bosnia and Herzegovina 1/ 2/ 6/ 10/		1 September 1993 d	6 March 1992
Botswana 1/ 2/		20 December 1971 a	19 March 1972
Brunei Darussalam 1/		25 July 1996 a	23 October 1996
Bulgaria 1/ 3/	17 December 1958	10 October 1961	8 January 1962
Burkina Faso		23 March 1987 a	21 June 1987
Cambodia		5 January 1960 a	4 April 1960
Cameroon		19 February 1988 a	19 May 1988
Canada 4/		12 May 1986 a	10 August 1986
Central African Republic 1/ 2/		15 October 1962 a	13 January 1963
Chile		4 September 1975 a	3 December 1975
China 1/ 2/		22 January 1987 a	22 April 1987

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Colombia		25 September 1979 a	24 December 1979
Costa Rica	10 June 1958	26 October 1987	24 January 1988
Côte d'Ivoire		1 February 1991 a	2 May 1991
Croatia 1/ 2/ 6/ 10/		26 July 1993 d	8 October 1991
Cuba 1/ 2/ 3/		30 December 1974 a	30 March 1975
Cyprus 1/ 2/		29 December 1980 a	29 March 1981
Czech Republic a/ 10/		30 September 1993 d	1 January 1993
Denmark 1/ 2/		22 December 1972 a	22 March 1973
Djibouti 10/		14 June 1983 d	27 June 1977
Dominica		28 October 1988 a	26 January 1989
Ecuador 1/ 2/	17 December 1958	3 January 1962	3 April 1962
Egypt		9 March 1959 a	7 June 1959
El Salvador	10 June 1958	26 February 1998	27 May 1998
Estonia		30 August 1993 a	28 November 1993
Finland	29 December 1958	19 January 1962	19 April 1962
France 1/	25 November 1958	26 June 1959	24 September 1959
Georgia		2 June 1994 a	31 August 1994
Germany b/ 1/ 11/	10 June 1958	30 June 1961	28 September 1961
Ghana		9 April 1968 a	8 July 1968
Greece 1/ 2/		16 July 1962 a	14 October 1962
Guatemala 1/ 2/		21 March 1984 a	19 June 1984
Guinea		23 January 1991 a	23 April 1991
Haiti		5 December 1983 a	4 March 1984
Holy See 1/ 2/		14 May 1975 a	12 August 1975
Hungary 1/ 2/		5 March 1962 a	3 June 1962
India 1/ 2/	10 June 1958	13 July 1960	11 October 1960
Indonesia 1/ 2/		7 October 1981 a	5 January 1982
Ireland 1/		12 May 1981 a	10 August 1981

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Israel	10 June 1958	5 January 1959	7 June 1959
Italy		31 January 1969 a	1 May 1969
Japan 1/		20 June 1961 a	18 September 1961
Jordan	10 June 1958	15 November 1979	13 February 1980
Kazakstan		20 November 1995 a	18 February 1996
Kenya 1/		10 February 1989 a	11 May 1989
Kuwait 1/		28 April 1978 a	27 July 1978
Kyrgyzstan		18 December 1996 a	18 March 1997
Lao People's Democratic Republic		17 June 1998 a	15 September 1998
Latvia		14 April 1992 a	13 July 1992
Lebanon 1/		11 August 1998 a	9 November 1998
Lesotho		13 June 1989 a	11 September 1989
Lithuania 3/		14 March 1995 a	12 June 1995
Luxembourg 1/	11 November 1958	9 September 1983	8 December 1983
Madagascar 1/ 2/		16 July 1962 a	14 October 1962
Malaysia 1/ 2/		5 November 1985 a	3 February 1986
Mali		8 September 1994 a	7 December 1994
Mauritania		30 January 1997 a	30 April 1997
Mauritius 1/		19 June 1996 a	17 September 1996
Mexico		14 April 1971 a	13 July 1971
Moldova 1/		18 September 1998	17 December 1998
Monaco 1/ 2/	31 December 1958	2 June 1982	31 August 1982
Mongolia 1/ 2/		24 October 1994 a	22 January 1995
Morocco 1/		12 February 1959 a	7 June 1959
Mozambique 1/		11 June 1998 a	9 September 1998
Nepal 1/ 2/		4 March 1998 a	2 June 1998
Netherlands 1/	10 June 1958	24 April 1964	23 July 1964

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
New Zealand 1/		6 January 1983 a	6 April 1983
Niger		14 October 1964 a	12 January 1965
Nigeria 1/ 2/		17 March 1970 a	15 June 1970
Norway 1/ 5/		14 March 1961 a	12 June 1961
Oman		25 February 1999 a	26 May 1999
Pakistan	30 December 1958		
Panama		10 October 1984 a	8 January 1985
Paraguay		8 October 1997 a	6 January 1998
Peru		7 July 1988 a	5 October 1988
Philippines 1/ 2/	10 June 1958	6 July 1967	4 October 1967
Poland 1/ 2/	10 June 1958	3 October 1961	1 January 1962
Portugal c/ 1/		18 October 1994 a	16 January 1995
Republic of Korea 1/ 2/		8 February 1973 a	9 May 1973
Romania 1/ 2/ 3/		13 September 1961 a	12 December 1961
Russian Federation d/ 1/ 3/	29 December 1958	24 August 1960	22 November 1960
San Marino		17 May 1979 a	15 August 1979
Saudi Arabia		19 April 1994 a	18 July 1994
Senegal		17 October 1994 a	15 January 1995
Singapore 1/		21 August 1986 a	19 November 1986
Slovakia a/ 10/		28 May 1993 d	1 January 1993
Slovenia 1/ 2/ 6/ 10/		1 July 1992 d	25 June 1991
South Africa		3 May 1976 a	1 August 1976
Spain		12 May 1977 a	10 August 1977
Sri Lanka	30 December 1958	9 April 1962	8 July 1962
Sweden	23 December 1958	28 January 1972	27 April 1972
Switzerland 8/	29 December 1958	1 June 1965	30 August 1965
Syrian Arab Republic		9 March 1959 a	7 June 1959

State	*Signature*	*Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)*	*Entry into force*
Thailand		21 December 1959 a	20 March 1960
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 1/ 2/ 6/ 10/		10 March 1994 d	17 September 1991
Trinidad and Tobago 1/ 2/		14 February 1966 a	15 May 1966
Tunisia 1/ 2/		17 July 1967 a	15 October 1967
Turkey 1/ 2/		2 July 1992 a	30 September 1992
Uganda 1/		12 February 1992 a	12 May 1992
Ukraine 1/ 3/	29 December 1958	10 October 1960	8 January 1961
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 1/		24 September 1975 a	23 December 1975
United Republic of Tanzania 1/		13 October 1964 a	12 January 1965
United States of America 1/ 2/		30 September 1970 a	29 December 1970
Uruguay		30 March 1983 a	28 June 1983
Uzbekistan		7 February 1996 a	7 May 1996
Venezuela 1/ 2/		8 February 1995 a	9 May 1995
Viet Nam 1/ 2/ 3/ 9/		12 September 1995 a	11 December 1995
Yugoslavia 1/ 2/ 6/		26 February 1982 a	27 May 1982
Zimbabwe		29 September 1994 a	28 December 1994

Parties: 121

a/ The Convention was signed by the former Czechoslovakia on 3 October 1958 and an instrument of ratification was deposited on 10 July 1959. 1/ 3/ On 28 May 1993, Slovakia and, on 30 September 1993, the Czech Republic deposited instruments of succession.

b/ The Convention was acceded to by the former German Democratic Republic on 20 February 1975 with reservations 1/, 2/ and 3/.

c/ On 12 November 1999, Portugal presented a declaration of territorial application of the Convention in respect of Macau. The notification has taken effect for Macau on 10 February 2000, in accordance with article X(2).

d/ The Russian Federation continues, as from 24 December 1991, the membership of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the United Nations and maintains, as from that date, full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General.

Declarations and reservations
(Excludes territorial declarations and certain other reservations and declarations of a political nature)

1/ State will apply the Convention only to recognition and enforcement of awards made in the territory of another Contracting State.

2/ State will apply the Convention only to differences arising out of legal relationships whether contractual or not which are considered as commercial under the national law.

3/ With regard to awards made in the territory of non-contracting States, State will apply the Convention only to the extent to which these States grant reciprocal treatment.

4/ Canada declared that it will apply the Convention only to differences arising out of legal relationships, whether contractual or not, which are considered as commercial under the laws of Canada, except in the case of the Province of Quebec where the law does not provide for such limitation.

5/ State will not apply the Convention to differences where the subject matter of the proceedings is immovable property situated in the State, or a right in or to such property.

6/ State will apply the Convention only to those arbitral awards which were adopted after the coming of the Convention into effect.

7/ Argentina declared that the present Convention should be construed in accordance with the principles and rules of the National Constitution in force or with those resulting from reforms mandated by the Constitution.

8/ On 23 April 1993, Switzerland notified the Secretary-General of its decision to withdraw the reciprocity declaration it had made upon ratification.

9/ Viet Nam declared that interpretation of the Convention before the Vietnamese Courts or competent Authorities should be made in accordance with the Constitution and the law of Viet Nam.

10/ The date of effect of the succession is as follows: for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 6 March 1992; for Croatia, 8 October 1991; for Czech Republic, 1 January 1993; for Djibouti, 27 June 1977; for Slovakia, 1 January 1993; for Slovenia, 25 June 1991; and for The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 17 September 1991.

11/ On 31 August 1998, Germany withdrew the reservation made upon ratification mentioned in footnote 1.

II. Enactments of model laws

9. UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (1985)

Legislation based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration has been enacted in Australia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Kenya, Lithuania, **Macau Special Administrative Region of China**, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Peru, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Ukraine, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Scotland; within the United States of America: California, Connecticut, Oregon and Texas; and Zimbabwe.

10. UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers (1992)

A directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union based on the principles of the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers was issued on 27 January 1997.

11. UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services (1994)

Legislation based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services has been adopted in Albania, Kyrgyzstan, Poland and Slovakia.

12. UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996)

Legislation based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce has been adopted in **Australia, Bermuda,** Colombia, **France, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Mexico,** Republic of Korea, Singapore and, within the United States of America, Illinois.

Uniform legislation influenced by the Model Law and the principles on which it is based has been prepared in **Canada** (Uniform Electronic Commerce Act, adopted in 1999 by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada) and in the **United States** (Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, adopted in 1999 by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Law) and enacted as law by a number of jurisdictions in those countries.

13. UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (1997)

Legislation based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency has been adopted in **Eritrea** and **Mexico**.

III. Chronological table of actions in respect of conventions

1. Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, concluded at New York on 14 June 1974, as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980

Egypt, 6 December 1982
Hungary, 16 June 1983
Argentina, 19 July 1983
Zambia, 6 June 1986
Mexico, 21 January 1988
Guinea, 23 January 1991
Uganda, 12 February 1992

Romania, 23 April 1992

Slovakia, **/ 28 May 1993

Czech Republic, **/ 30 September 1993

United States of America, 5 May 1994

Cuba, 2 November 1994

Poland, 19 May 1995

Slovenia, 2 August 1995

Belarus, 23 January 1997

Uruguay, 1 April 1997

Moldova, 28 August 1997

a/ The former German Democratic Republic acceded to this Protocol on 31 August 1989.

**/ Succession; the former Czechoslovakia acceded to this Protocol on 5 March1990.

2. [Unamended] Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods (New York, 1974)

Ghana, 7 October 1975

Dominican Republic, 23 December 1977

Yugoslavia, 27 November 1978

Norway, 20 March 1980

Argentina, 9 October 1981

Egypt, 6 December 1982

Hungary, 16 June 1983

Zambia, 6 June 1986

Mexico, 21 January 1988

Guinea, 23 January 1991

Uganda, 12 February 1992

Romania, 23 April 1992

Slovakia, */ 28 May 1993

Ukraine, 13 September 1993

Czech Republic, */ 30 September 1993
Bosnia and Herzegovina, **/ 12 January 1994
United States of America, 5 May 1994
Cuba, 2 November 1994
Poland, 19 May 1995
Slovenia, 2 August 1995
Belarus, 23 January 1997
Uruguay, 1 April 1997
Moldova, 28 August 1997
Burundi, 4 September 1998

a/ The former German Democratic Republic ratified this Convention on 31 August 1989.

*/ Succession; the former Czechoslovakia ratified this Convention on 26 May 1977.

**/ Succession; Yugoslavia ratified this Convention on 27 November 1978.

3. United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 (Hamburg)

Egypt, 23 April 1979
Uganda, 6 July 1979
United Republic of Tanzania, 24 July 1979
Tunisia, 15 September 1980
Barbados, 2 February 1981
Morocco, 12 June 1981
Romania, 7 January 1982
Chile, 4 July 1982
Lebanon, 4 April 1983
Hungary, 5 July 1984
Senegal, 17 March 1986
Botswana, 16 February 1988
Sierra Leone, 7 October 1988
Nigeria, 7 November 1988

Kenya, 31 July 1989

Burkina Faso, 14 August 1989

Lesotho, 26 October 1989

Guinea, 23 January 1991

Malawi, 18 March 1991

Zambia, 7 October 1991

Austria, 29 July 1993

Cameroon, 21 October 1993

Czech Republic, 23 June 1995

Gambia, 7 February 1996

Georgia, 21 March 1996

Burundi, 4 September 1998

4. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 1980)

Lesotho, 18 June 1981

France, 6 August 1982

Syrian Arab Republic, 19 October 1982

Egypt, 6 December 1982

Hungary, 16 June 1983

Argentina, 19 July 1983

Yugoslavia, 27 March 1985

Zambia, 6 June 1986

China, 11 December 1986

Italy, 11 December 1986

United States of America, 11 December 1986

Finland, 15 December 1987

Sweden, 15 December 1987

Austria, 29 December 1987

Mexico, 29 December 1987

Australia, 17 March 1988

Norway, 20 July 1988

Denmark, 14 February 1989

Belarus, 9 October 1989

Germany, */ 21 December 1989

Ukraine, 3 January 1990

Chile, 7 February 1990

Switzerland, 21 February 1990

Iraq, 5 March 1990

Bulgaria, 9 July 1990

Spain, 24 July 1990

Russian Federation, **/ 16 August 1990

Netherlands, 13 December 1990

Guinea, 23 January 1991

Canada, 23 April 1991

Romania, 22 May 1991

Ecuador, 27 January 1992

Uganda, 12 February 1992

Slovakia, ***/ 28 May 1993

Estonia, 20 September 1993

Czech Republic, ***/ 30 September 1993

Slovenia, ****/ 7 January 1994

Bosnia and Herzegovina, ****/ 12 January 1994

Georgia, 16 August 1994

New Zealand, 22 September 1994

Moldova, 13 October 1994

Cuba, 2 November 1994

Lithuania, 18 January 1995

Singapore, 16 February 1995

Poland, 19 May 1995

Belgium, 31 October 1996

Uzbekistan, 27 November 1996

Luxembourg, 30 January 1997

Latvia, 31 July 1997

Mongolia, 31 December 1997

Greece, 12 January 1998

Croatia, ****/ 8 June 1998

Burundi, 4 September 1998

Uruguay, 25 January 1999

Peru, 25 March 1999

Kyrgyzstan, 11 May 1999

*/ The former German Democratic Republic ratified this Convention on 23 February 1989.

**/ The Russian Federation continues, as from 24 December 1991, the membership of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the United Nations and maintains, as from that date, full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General.

***/ Succession; the former Czechoslovakia ratified this Convention on 5 March 1990.

****/ Succession; Yugoslavia ratified this Convention on 27 March 1985.

5. United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes (New York, 1988)

Guinea, 23 January 1991

Mexico, 15 September 1992

6. United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade (Vienna, 1991)

Georgia, 21 March 1996

Egypt, 6 April 1999

7. United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit (New York, 1995)

Ecuador, 18 June 1997

Panama, 21 May 1998

El Salvador, 31 July 1998

Kuwait, 28 October 1998

Tunisia, 8 December 1998

8. Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958)

Israel, 5 January 1959

Morocco, 12 February 1959

Egypt, 9 March 1959

Syrian Arab Republic, 9 March 1959

France, 26 July 1959

Thailand, 21 December 1959

Cambodia, 5 January 1960

India, 13 July 1960

Russian Federation, **/ 24 August 1960

Ukraine, 10 October 1960

Belarus, 15 November 1960

Norway, 14 March 1961

Austria, 2 May 1961

Japan, 20 June 1961

Germany, */ 30 June 1961

Romania, 13 September 1961

Poland, 3 October 1961

Bulgaria, 10 October 1961

Ecuador, 3 January 1962

Finland, 19 January 1962

Hungary, 5 March 1962

Sri Lanka, 9 April 1962

Greece, 16 July 1962

Madagascar, 16 July 1962

Central African Republic, 15 October 1962

Netherlands, 24 April 1964

United Republic of Tanzania, 13 October 1964

Niger, 14 October 1964

Switzerland, 1 June 1965

Trinidad and Tobago, 14 February 1966

Philippines, 6 July 1967

Tunisia, 17 July 1967

Ghana, 9 April 1968

Italy, 31 January 1969

Nigeria, 17 March 1970

United States of America, 30 September 1970

Mexico, 14 April 1971

Botswana, 20 December 1971

Sweden, 28 January 1972

Denmark, 22 December 1972

Republic of Korea, 8 February 1973

Benin, 16 May 1974

Cuba, 30 December 1974

Australia, 26 March 1975

Holy See, 14 May 1975

Belgium, 18 August 1975

Chile, 4 September 1975

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 24 September 1975

South Africa, 3 May 1976

Spain, 12 May 1977

Kuwait, 28 April 1978

San Marino, 17 May 1979

Colombia, 25 September 1979

Jordan, 15 November 1979

Cyprus, 29 December 1980

Ireland, 12 May 1981

Indonesia, 7 October 1981

Yugoslavia, 26 February 1982

Monaco, 2 June 1982

New Zealand, 6 January 1983

Uruguay, 30 March 1983

Djibouti, 14 June 1983

Luxembourg, 9 September 1983

Haiti, 5 December 1983

Guatemala, 21 March 1984

Panama, 10 October 1984

Malaysia, 5 November 1985

Canada, 12 May 1986

Singapore, 21 August 1986

China, 22 January 1987

Burkina Faso, 23 March 1987

Costa Rica, 26 October 1987

Cameroon, 19 February 1988

Bahrain, 6 April 1988

Peru, 7 July 1988

Dominica, 28 October 1988

Antigua and Barbuda, 2 February 1989

Algeria, 7 February 1989

Kenya, 10 February 1989

Argentina, 14 March 1989

Lesotho, 13 June 1989

Guinea, 23 January 1991

Côte d'Ivoire, 1 February 1991

Uganda, 12 February 1992

Latvia, 14 April 1992

Bangladesh, 6 May 1992

Turkey, 2 July 1992

Slovenia, 6 July 1992

Barbados, 16 March 1993

Slovakia, 28 May 1993

Croatia, 26 July 1993

Estonia, 30 August 1993

Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1 September 1993

Czech Republic, 30 September 1993

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 10 March 1994

Saudi Arabia, 19 April 1994

Georgia, 2 June 1994

Mali, 8 September 1994

Zimbabwe, 29 September 1994

Senegal, 17 October 1994

Portugal, 18 October 1994

Mongolia, 24 October 1994

Venezuela, 8 February 1995

Lithuania, 15 March 1995

Bolivia, 28 April 1995

Viet Nam, 12 September 1995

Kazakstan, 20 November 1995

Uzbekistan, 7 February 1996

Mauritius, 19 June 1996

Brunei Darussalam, 25 July 1996

Kyrgyzstan, 18 December 1996

Mauritania, 30 January 1997

Paraguay, 8 October 1997

Armenia, 29 December 1997

El Salvador, 26 February 1998

Nepal, 4 March 1998

Mozambique, 11 June 1998

Lao People's Democratic Republic, 17 June 1998

Lebanon, 11 August 1998

Moldova, 18 September 1998

Oman, 25 February 1999

*/ The former German Democratic Republic acceded to the Convention on 20 February 1975.

**/ The Russian Federation continues, as from 24 December 1991, the membership of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the United Nations and maintains, as from that date, full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General.